

HOWARD COUNTY BRAC TASK FORCE

BRAC BIT: #50

DATE: 6 August 2009

SUBJECT(S): Calendar Events and the BRAC Business Initiative

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DISCUSSION:

1. Upcoming Events:

- a. BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) In Progress Review #1
 - i. Date: 25 August 2009, 8:00 to 10:00 AM
 - ii. Location: The "Other Barn" 5851 Robert Oliver PI # 2, Columbia, MD
 - iii. Agenda: Brief the complete BBI Plan
- b. Howard County BRAC Task Force Meeting:
 - i. Date: 9 September, 3:30 to 5:00 PM
 - ii. Location: The "Other Barn" 5851 Robert Oliver PI #2, Columbia, MD 21045
 - iii. Agenda: Presentations from the Lessons Learned and Family Support Committees and an update on the BRAC Business Initiative
- c. Fort Meade Regional Growth Management Committee (RGMC) Meeting:
 - i. Date: 10 September 2009, 3:30 to 5:00 PM
 - ii. Location: 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046
 - iii. Agenda: Focus on alignment of regional issues and alignment of communications (more to come on this)
- d. BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) In Progress Review #2
 - i. Date: 6 October 2009, 8:00 to 10:00 AM
 - ii. Location: The "Other Barn" 5851 Robert Oliver PI # 2, Columbia, MD
 - iii. Agenda: Detailed presentation and discussion of the activities of the 21 BBI Test Companies

2. Discussion:

- a. BRAC Business Initiative:
 - i. We have a number of actions ongoing with BBI. Our primary focus is on a very comprehensive one year plan to guide our effort. As referenced above, the final plan will be briefed and implementation begun on 25 August.
 - ii. BBI Expectations: Please keep in mind that BBI was initiated because small and minority businesses are having difficulty tapping into the contracting opportunities brought to the region by Fort Meade Growth. While addressing this issue, we discovered that there was very little documentation of the Fort Meade contracting environment. The predominance of operational information on this environment is anecdotal and not actionable. This situation drove the need to effectively document the Fort Meade contracting environment, to include defense agencies and contractors.
 - iii. This is the primary mission of the BBI: Document the subject environment and therefore make working within it more transparent for small and minority businesses. The BBI will be active at least one full year and we will approach this work very systematically in terms of recording actions that take place during that year. Every 6 weeks we will hold a very public In Progress Review (IPR) highlighting the actions, both best practices and obstacles, identified by the Test Companies during the previous 6 weeks.